



**Meeting Minutes
Gloucester Board of Health
Septic Subcommittee**

April 25, 2017

**3 POND ROAD, GLOUCESTER, MA 01930
Annex Conference Room**

IN ATTENDANCE

Frederick Cowan, Subcommittee Chair; Joseph Rosa, Board of Health member; Rob Harris, Board of Health member; Thorsen Akerley, Health Department staff; Peter Ogren, Hayes Engineering; April Ferraro, Meridian Associates; Marcy Pregent, 15 Waterside Ln; Vaclav Talacko, Hancock Associates

OPENING OF MEETING – 8:30 AM

SUBJECT

**10 Waterside Lane – Map 204, Lot 25
(Property owned by Robert Wolfe– Represented by Peter Ogren, Hayes Engineering)**

To discuss a variance to Gloucester's Onsite Wastewater Regulations to allow a leaching facility to be installed within 200 feet of a coastal resource area (91 feet provided); a variance to Title 5 to allow a leaching facility to be installed within 50 feet of a bordering vegetated wetland (26 feet provided); a variance to Gloucester's Onsite Wastewater Regulations to allow a Waterloo Biofilter to be installed within 100 feet of a coastal resource area (91 feet provided) and 100 feet of bordering vegetated wetland (42 feet provided); a local upgrade request to reduce the requirement of two deep holes per disposal area to one (310 CMR 15.405 (1)(k)), and a local upgrade request to allow for a sieve analysis in lieu of a percolation test (310 CMR 15.405(1)(i)).

Discussion

Mr. Ogren provides an overview of the property topography and the variances that are being asked for including the new swale.

Mr. Cowan asks about the neighbors who weren't notified.

Mr. Akerley points to the letter signed by the neighbor who did not object to the project.

Mr. Ogren also says that new notices were sent out for this meeting.

Mr. Rosa asks if the neighbors at 230R Western Avenue are content.



There is a collective reassurance that all the issues have been addressed.

Public Comment

None

MOTION: By **Mr. Harris** to approve the plan as designed, with the variances requested.

SECOND: By **Mr. Rosa**

All in favor – motion carries

SUBJECT

28 Sleepy Hollow Road - Map 257, Lot 35

(Property owned Carolyn Dagues and represented Vaclav Talacko, Hancock Associates)

To discuss variances to Gloucester's Onsite Wastewater regulations to allow a leaching facility to be installed within 10 feet of an accessory building (shed, 5 feet provided) and to install a leaching facility with 200 feet of a coastal resource area (155 feet provided).

Discussion

Mr. Talacko provides an overview of the project and the variances requested.

There is some discussion over the variances amongst the Board.

Public Comment

None

MOTION: By **Mr. Rosa** to approve the plan as designed, with the variances requested.

SECOND: By **Mr. Harris**

All in favor – motion carries

SUBJECT

10 Totten Lane – Map 252, Lot 2

(Property owned by Crocker Snow – Represented by April Ferraro, Meridian Associates)

To discuss the approval of a tight tank and to discuss a variance to Gloucester's Onsite Wastewater regulations to allow a tight tank to be installed within 100 feet of a coastal resource area (44 feet provided).

Discussion

Ms. Ferraro provided an overview of the project and variances requested.



Mr. Cowan discusses the unique situation of this project and how it qualifies for a tight tank due to the “feasibility” requirement of a leaching field. There was some comments about the difficulty of putting in a leaching facility, and that because the dwelling is used so sparingly it makes sense to allow the tight tank without a deed restriction.

There is some discussion about pumping the tight tank and making sure the truck didn’t damage it.

Public Comment

None

NOTE: BECAUSE THIS ITEM WAS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA, IT CANNOT BE OFFICIALLY APPROVED. IT WILL GO TO THE FULL BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING ON 5/4/17 FOR OFFICIAL APPROVAL.

MOTION: By **Mr. Harris** to approve the plan as designed, with the variances requested.

SECOND: By **Mr. Rosa**

All in favor – motion carries

SUBJECT

5 Seaview Road – Map 75, Lot 49

(Property owned by Timothy Kirk – Represented by Daniel Johnson, Domestic Septic Design)

To discuss an alternative design standard approval to reduce the amount of naturally occurring pervious material beneath the soil absorption system from 4 feet to 2 feet, and to reduce the separation between the bottom of the soil absorption system and estimated seasonally high groundwater from 4 feet to 2 feet (Design and Installation requirements, 5,b and c).

Discussion

Mr. Akerley provides an overview of the project and explains why the 2 foot reduction in naturally occurring pervious material and reduction in depth to groundwater are necessary.

Mr. Rosa questions the overall systems efficacy given the steep slope and incoming velocity of effluent.

Mr. Akerley and Mr. Harris both explain that it won’t be receiving effluent at a higher rate than any other gravity fed system, and it should have no effect on the overall effectiveness of the system.



Public Comment

None

MOTION: By **Mr. Harris** to approve the plan as designed, with the variances requested.

SECOND: By **Mr. Rosa**

All in favor – motion carries

SUBJECT

15 Waterside Lane – Map 201, Lot 110

(Property owned by Jimary and Trust LLC – Represented by Marcy Pregent)

Ms. Pregent is preliminarily asking whether the Board would consider granting a variance to the 150 foot setback to a potable well, which is located on the neighbor's lot.

Discussion

Ms. Pregent and Mr. Akerley explain the situation in that the only place on the lot where a septic system (for new construction) could go is within the 150 foot setback required by Gloucester's Onsite Wastewater regulations.

The Board generally says that this would not be permitted unless the neighbor is willing to allow it.

There is some general discussion about potential possibilities where the neighbor would grant this, such as relocating their well, offering to hook them up to city water, and offering to test their water on an annual basis.

Mr. Cowan: Entertain a motion to Adjourn

Mr. Rosa: So moved

Mr. Harris: Second

Mr. Cowan: Meeting is adjourned



CLOSE OF MEETING – 9:30 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Thorsen Akerley

Date

Accepted by:

Frederick Cowan
Subcommittee Chair

Date